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3 April 1992

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-sixth session
Agenda item 33
QUESTION OF PALESTINE

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-seventh year

Letter dated 3 April 1992 from the Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People addressed to the Secretary-General

In my capacity as Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, I wish to condemn the indiscriminate and deliberate shooting of Palestinian civilians by the Israeli military forces in the occupied Palestinian territory.

According to a report by Reuters on 1 April, the Israeli Border Police shot dead 4 Palestinian civilians and injured about 80 others while chasing a Palestinian car in the market of the Rafah refugee camp. At the time of the report, five of the wounded were in serious condition with gunshots to their heads and chests. A day later, on 2 April, Reuters reported that 21 other Palestinians were shot and wounded by the Israeli army in a clash with protesters in the Gaza Strip. The BBC reported that a woman had been killed when she was run over by an army jeep. It also reported that Palestinians had been fired upon indiscriminately and the free passage of ambulances carrying the wounded had been prevented.

According to the Palestine Human Rights Information Centre (PHR), more than 1,000 Palestinians have been killed by Israeli forces since the beginning of the intifadah in December 1987.

The Centre reported on 26 March 1992 that since December 1991, 18 Palestinians had been killed by special Israeli undercover army units in what amounted to the "summary execution" of wanted youths. According to that report, the army had adopted a policy of seeking out activists, hunting them down and executing them.

Furthermore, the daily Ha'aretz reported on 17 March 1992 that a day earlier the Israeli Parliament had passed a law allowing Israeli settlers and soldiers to chase and shoot at Palestinians who threw stones at them, "even as

the stone-throwers run away". It was reported that the legislation was the newest in a series aimed at giving Israeli soldiers and settlers more latitude in "open-fire" policy regarding Palestinians. According to the new law, settlers who shoot and kill Palestinian stone-throwers would not "bear any criminal or negligent responsibility".

The Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People strongly condemns this increasing and ruthless recourse to military force in order to subdue an unarmed civilian population demonstrating for its inalienable national rights. These policies and practices of Israel, the occupying Power, are in violation not only of Israel's obligations under the Fourth Geneva Convention, but also of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and numerous resolutions of the Security Council and the General Assembly; they are also extremely harmful to efforts to promote a just peace in the region.

The Committee requests that Israel cease immediately the killing and injuring of Palestinian civilians and accept the de jure applicability of the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949 to the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem, and that it abide scrupulously by the provisions of the Convention, the Covenant and the relevant Security Council resolutions. The Committee appeals urgently to you and to all concerned, in particular the High Contracting Parties to the Convention, to take all necessary measures to ensure these objectives.

I would like to request that the present letter be circulated as a document of the forty-sixth session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 33, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Kéba Birane CISSÉ
Chairman
Committee on the Exercise
of the Inalienable Rights
of the Palestinian People

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7 April 1992

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Forty-sixth session
Agenda items 8 and 78

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

Note by the Secretary-General

1. The Preparatory Committee of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development held its fourth session at United Nations Headquarters, from 2 March to 3 April 1992. The report of the Preparatory Committee at its fourth session will be issued as document A/CONF.151/PC/128. The report contains certain recommendations for action by the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session. It will therefore be necessary to reopen consideration of agenda item 78.

2. At its 64th meeting, on 30 March 1992, the Preparatory Committee adopted a draft decision entitled "Dates of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development" (see decision 4/1 below). 1/

3. At its 70th meeting, on 3 April 1992, the Preparatory Committee adopted a draft decision entitled "Observer status in the work of the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development for associate members of regional commissions" (see decision 4/2 below).

4. Also at its 70th meeting, the Preparatory Committee adopted a draft decision entitled "Status of the European Community at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development" (see decision 4/3 below).

1/ The decisions in the present report have been numbered for ease of reference. The final numbering will appear in the report of the Preparatory Committee at its fourth session (A/CONF.151/PC/128).

5. At its 71st meeting, on 3 April 1992, the Preparatory Committee adopted a draft decision entitled "Draft provisional rules of procedure of the Conference" (see decision 4/4 below).

6. The following four draft decisions are transmitted herewith to the General Assembly for action:

4/1. Dates of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development

The Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, noting that the Moslem Feast of Ed-Al-Adha will start on 10 or 11 June 1992, recommends to the General Assembly that the dates of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development be changed from 1 to 12 June 1992 to 3 to 14 June 1992, with pre-session consultations to take place on 1 and 2 June 1992.

4/2. Observer status in the work of the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development for associate members of regional commissions

The Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 45/202 of 21 December 1990 on specific measures in favour of island developing countries, in which the Assembly, inter alia, expressed concern about the adverse effects on those countries of sea-level rise resulting from climate change,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 46/70 of 11 December 1991 on cooperation and coordination of specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations in their assistance to Non-Self-Governing Territories,

Recalling further General Assembly resolution 46/168 of 19 December 1991, in which the Assembly endorsed decision 3/12 of 4 September 1991 of the Preparatory Committee of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, on participation in the Conference, stressed the importance of the participation of developing countries in the preparatory process and in the Conference, and requested the Preparatory Committee at its fourth session to review relevant parts of the annex to section E of its decision 3/11, with a view to ensuring adequate and full participation of developing countries in the Conference and in its subsidiary bodies,

Taking into account provisions of the terms of reference of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, respectively, providing for associate membership,

Decides to recommend to the General Assembly that it reopen consideration of agenda item 78 entitled "United Nations Conference on Environment and Development", at its forty-sixth session and that it adopt the following draft decision:

Observer status in the work of the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development for associate members of regional commissions

The General Assembly decides:

(a) To request the Secretary-General to invite, in addition to those listed in paragraph 9 of its resolution 46/168 of 19 December 1991, associate members of regional commissions to participate in the work of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in the capacity of observers;

(b) To amend the draft provisional rules recommended to the Conference by adding the following new rule:

Rule 65 bis

Associate members of regional commissions

Representatives designated by associate members of regional commissions may participate as observers, without the right to vote, in the deliberations of the Conference, the Main Committee and, as appropriate, any other committee or working group.

4/3. Status of the European Economic Community at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development

The Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 46/168 of 19 December 1991 and the previous resolutions of the Assembly on the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development,

Recalling also that, in accordance with Assembly resolution 46/168, the European Economic Community has been invited to participate in the Conference as an observer,

Noting that the European Economic Community has been transferred exclusive competence over certain matters within the purview of the Conference and that, as a result, the rights of participation normally accorded observers would not allow the Community to participate effectively in the Conference,

Recommends to the General Assembly the following amendments to the draft provisional rules of the Conference 2/ in order to allow the European Economic Community to participate fully in the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development:

Rule 1

In line 1, after the word "Conference", the words "and that of the European Economic Community", should be inserted.

Rule 3

In line 5, after the words "Minister for Foreign Affairs", the words "or, in the case of the European Economic Community, by the President of the European Commission" should be inserted.

Rule 24, paragraph 1

In line 2, after the word "Conference", the words "or of the European Economic Community" should be inserted.

Rule 24, paragraph 3

In line 1, after the word "State", the words "or of the European Economic Community" should be inserted.

Rules 25, 26 and 27

In line 1, after the word "representative", the words "of any State participating in the Conference" should be inserted.

Rule 47

In line 1, after the word "Conference", the words "and the European Economic Community" should be inserted.

2/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 48 (A/46/48), vol. II, annex I, decision 3/11 E.

Rules 51, paragraph 2, and 52, subparagraph (a)

At the end, the words "provided that they are representatives of participating States" should be added.

Rule 63

At the beginning, the words "Save where otherwise specifically provided with respect to the European Economic Community in these rules of procedure," should be inserted.

4/4. Draft provisional rules of procedure of the Conference

The Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, recalling its decision 3/11 of 4 September 1991, entitled "Provisional agenda, organization of work and provisional rules of procedure of the Conference", 3/ decides to recommend that rule 6 of the draft provisional rules of procedure of the Conference should be revised to read as follows:

"The Conference shall elect from among the representatives of participating States the following officers: a President, 39 Vice-Presidents and an ex officio Vice-President from the host country and a Rapporteur-General, as well as a Chairman for the Main Committee established in accordance with rule 46. These officials shall be elected on the basis of ensuring the representative character of the General Committee. The Conference may also elect such other officers as it deems necessary for the performance of its functions."

3/ See Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 48 (A/46/48), vol. II, annex I.

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Agenda items 137 and 107

RESTRUCTURING AND REVITALIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS IN THE ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND RELATED FIELDS

PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1992-1993

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/46/L.57/Rev.1

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Mahmoud BARIMANI (Islamic Republic of Iran)

1. At its 63rd meeting, on 8 April 1992, the Fifth Committee, pursuant to rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, considered the statement by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/46/83) on the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/46/L.57/Rev.1. The recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions were presented orally by its Chairman.

2. Statements and comments made in the course of the Committee's consideration of this item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/46/SR.63).

DECISION OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

3. The Fifth Committee decided, without a vote, to inform the General Assembly that, should it adopt draft resolution A/46/L.57/Rev.1, modifications in resource requirements under section 14, (Department of Technical Cooperation for Development), section 18 (Centre for Science and Technology for Development) and possibly section 13 (Department of International Economic

and Social Affairs) would be reflected in the budget performance reports for the biennium 1992-1993. It also decided to recommend to the General Assembly that it concur in the observations and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions.

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PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1992-1993

RESTRUCTURING AND REVITALIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS IN THE ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND RELATED FIELDS

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/46/L.57/Rev.1

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1. At its 63rd meeting, on 8 April 1992, the Fifth Committee, pursuant to rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, considered the statement by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/46/83) on the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/46/L.57/Rev.1. The recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions were presented orally by its Chairman.

2. Statements and comments made in the course of the Committee's consideration of this item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/46/SR.63).

DECISION OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

3. The Fifth Committee decided, without a vote, to inform the General Assembly that, should it adopt draft resolution A/46/L.57/Rev.1, resource requirements under section 14 (Department of Technical Cooperation for Development) and estimates under section 18 (Centre for Science and Technology for Development) would be reflected in the budget performance reports for the biennium 1992-1993. It also decided to recommend to the General Assembly that

it concur with the observations and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions.

4. Statements in explanation of position after the decision were made by the representatives of India, Burundi and Senegal.

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Agenda item 18 (h)

APPOINTMENTS TO FILL VACANCIES IN SUBSIDIARY ORGANS AND OTHER APPOINTMENTS

Appointment of the members of the Consultative Committee of the United Nations Development Fund for Women

Note by the Secretary-General

1. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 39/125 of 14 December 1984, by which the Consultative Committee of the United Nations Development Fund for Women was established, the President of the General Assembly is required to designate, with due regard for the financing of the Fund from voluntary contributions and to equitable geographical distribution, five Member States to serve on the Consultative Committee for a period of three years. By the terms of the same resolution, each State member of the Consultative Committee shall designate a person with relevant expertise and experience in development cooperation activities, including those benefiting women, to serve on the Committee.

2. In that connection, the Secretary-General has received from the President of the General Assembly the following communication dated 14 April 1992:

> "I have the pleasure to refer to General Assembly resolution 39/125 of 14 December 1984, by which the Consultative Committee of the United Nations Development Fund for Women was established. In accordance with the terms of the resolution, I appointed at the 45th and 79th plenary meetings of the General Assembly, on 13 November and 20 December 1991, respectively, the Bahamas, Denmark, Indonesia and Uganda as members of the Consultative Committee. Regarding the appointment of a member from the Eastern European States, I informed the Assembly that I would undertake further consultations.

"The Chairman of the Group of Eastern European States has now informed me that the Group has endorsed the candidature of Poland for the position. Having thus completed my consultations, I have the pleasure to inform you that I am appointing Poland as a member of the Consultative Committee. I will inform the General Assembly of this decision in due course."

3. As a result of the above appointment, the Consultative Committee is composed of the following members: Bahamas, Denmark, Indonesia, Poland and Uganda.